

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00020 070639Z

13-12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

SCCT-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 /071 W
----- 130594

R 061500Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2845
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 0020

DEPT PLEASE PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJECT: THE HARD LINE OF GEORGE HABBASH

1. FOLLOWING IS SYNOPSIS OF A STATEMENT GIVEN BY
PFLP HEAD GEORGE HABBASH TO THE LIBYAN PRESS PUBLISHED
JAN 6, WHICH MAY BE OF SOME INTEREST.

2. HABBASH SAID THAT HIS OBJECTIVE WAS TO SET UP A
UNIFIED REJECTION FRONT, COMPOSED OF A NORTHERN FRONT,
SYRIA, IRAQ, AND THE "PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE", WITH SUPPORT
FROM LIBYA, ALGERIA, SOMALIA, AND THE PDRY.

3. HABBASH WAS WORRIED ABOUT WHAT 1976 WOULD BRING, AND HE
LISTED FOUR BAD SIGNS:

(A) SADAT HAD SAID IT WOULD BE THE "YEAR OF
PALESTINE", WHICH MEANT MORE ATTEMPTS TO
DRAG PALESTINIANS INTO THE SETTLEMENT PROCESS.

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(B) ISRAELI DOVES WERE TALKING ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY
OF DEALING WITH THE PLO ON CONDITION IT
RECOGNIZED ISRAEL.

(C) THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT HAD RELEASED A STATEMENT
WHICH SHOWED A SHIFT IN U.S. POLICY, AND
SUGGESTED THE U.S. WOULD DEAL WITH THE PLO IF IT
RECOGNIZED ISRAEL EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY, AND

(D) SOME PLO OFFICIALS HAD BEEN SAYING TO THE PRESS
THAT RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL WAS A SUBJECT FOR
DISCUSSION.

ALL THIS WAS BAD NEWS, AND 1976 MIGHT BE THE YEAR OF
THE SELL-OUT OF PALESTINE.

4. HABBASH SAID HE SAW NO ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN DEBATES IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND GENEVA.
NO RESOLUTION, WHATEVER ITS NUMBER, COULD BE ACCEPTABLE
IF IT RECOGNIZED THE EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL.
CARLE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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